

URBAN WILDLIFE/HABITAT FUNDING WINDOW

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT URBAN Grant Proposal's – GOALS & OBJECTIVES

July 2012

URBAN WILDLIFE/URBAN HABITAT refers to Heritage Fund monies used for conserving, enhancing and establishing wildlife and wildlife habitat within, or in close proximity to, urban areas. Per Arizona Revised Statute "Urban Wildlife" is designated as wildlife that occurs within the limits of an incorporated area or in close proximity to an urban area that receives significant impact from human use. (A.R.S. 17-296(6)).

Our intent is to fund projects that will give the greatest return for the Heritage funds invested consistent with the stated funding goals and objectives. For grant cycle year **2013** there is a total of **\$112,500** available to support **URBAN grant proposals** submitted.

Urban Wildlife and Urban Habitat projects for which URBAN grant proposals are submitted must be consistent with one or more of the **Goals & Objectives** listed below in order to be fully considered.

GOAL 1: Human/Wildlife Conflicts. Educational projects or programs that assess and develop proactive measures to reduce the risk of critical incidents and other human/wildlife conflicts in urban areas; including land management practices and public awareness programs with emphasis on an integrated community approach.

GOAL 2: Wildlife Viewing

- a. Support wildlife-focused festivals including planning, promotion and implementation.
- b. Projects to develop and implement wildlife-viewing programs and activities (e.g., partnerships in wildlife viewing workshops, field trips, presentations, support materials, promotion, etc.) in urban areas and at urban-eligible AGFD wildlife areas including site development (e.g., viewing blinds, interpretive signage, trail and facility development, etc.).
- c. Projects supporting nature tourism marketing including partnering opportunities with related agencies, businesses and communities in promoting and developing wildlife viewing conferences, communication plans, site assessments and enhancements.
- d. Research related to wildlife-viewing recreation (nature tourism) that attempts to understand the wildlife-viewing market in Arizona including, but not limited to: expectations for satisfying experiences, importance of specific wildlife species of interest, willingness to pay for valued wildlife-viewing experiences, economic impact on local communities, etc.

GOAL 3: Wildlife Corridors/Habitat Conservation

- a. Projects or programs supporting and/or promoting urban smart growth efforts while limiting urban/rural sprawl to better address wildlife habitat conservation as outlined in AGFD's wildlife friendly development guidelines and county connectivity reports. May include land-use planning actions during the preservation, development, or redevelopment of a neighborhood, community or region to include in-fill development and incorporating wildlife habitat connectivity in development plans. Should consult with Department employees where appropriate to include recommendations for keeping wildlife/human interactions to a minimum.
- b. Projects to increase wildlife permeability across urban barriers such as roads and canals (such as fencing, culverts, land bridges, signage, etc.) in areas identified as important for wildlife connectivity as outlined in county connectivity or detailed linkage design plans or through monitoring efforts such as roadkill or telemetry studies. Projects may include monitoring and research, placing structures such as fencing or signage following recommendations in the Department's Wildlife Friendly Development of Fencing Guidelines as appropriate, or creation of recommendations to make the studied barrier(s) more permeable to one or more species of wildlife.
- c. Research or monitor (baseline and/or post-construction) the impacts of new or proposed development in urban areas, including, but not limited to, movement or corridor use studies using GPS collars or roadkill or other baseline fauna inventory monitoring.

GOAL 4: Urban Fishing Program

- a. Projects that improve sport fishery populations in urban waters, (e.g., fish habitat enhancements, the installation or replacement of water aeration systems, shoreline stabilization, nuisance waterfowl management and outreach, and any water quality improvements).
- b. Projects that increase angling recreation capacity at urban waters such as expanded parking, improved shoreline access, shade structures or trees, and restrooms (specifically beneficial to anglers).
- c. Projects that include the construction or renovation of public fishing ponds.

NOTE: To be eligible for Urban funding the project must be within the corporate limits of any incorporated city or town, or within 5 miles (straight-line distance) of the boundary.

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